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#### HE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Zachary S. Gibler, Timothy A. Hogan, Patrick M. Quinn, Charles J. Darnell, and Doug Stang

Serial No.:

10/005,099

Group Art Unit:

Filed:

December 5, 2001

Examiner:

For:

Systems and Methods for Providing Lighting Solutions Over a

Computer Network

**Box DAC** 

Commissioner for Patents

Attorney Docket No. N0023/250365

Washington, D.C. 20231

#### DECLARATION OF KAREN W. SHELTON

Sir:

- 1. My name is Karen W. Shelton. I am over the age of eighteen and I am competent to make this declaration based on my personal knowledge of the facts stated herein. I understand that this declaration will be presented to the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-referenced application.
  - 2. I am employed by Acuity Brands, Inc. as Associate Counsel.
- 3. I have made several attempts to obtain Mr. Douglas J. Stang's signature on the declaration form, which is required by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.
- (a) On January 16, 2002, I sent Mr. Stang a copy of a declaration for his signature via certified mail and requested return of the executed document. On January 18, 2002, Mr. Stang signed for delivery of this package. A copy of the letter, the enclosures, and the return receipt with Mr. Stang's signature are attached at Tab A.

U.S.S.N.: 10/005,099

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(b) After failing to receive the executed declaration from Mr. Stang,

I attempted to send a second request. At that time I verified his last known address

with the human resources department of the Lithonia Lighting division of Acuity

Brands, Inc. and learned that Mr. Stang had moved to 114 Warren Street, Columbus,

Ohio 43215. On May 23, 2002, another letter was sent via certified mail to Mr. Stang

at this address. This letter was returned by the U.S. Postal Service indicating that Mr.

Stang was "not known" at that address. A copy of the returned letter and envelope

are attached at Tab B.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true

and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and

further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false

statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both,

under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false

statement may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Signed this <u>3</u> day of July, 2002.

Karen W. Shelton

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#### **Acuity**Brands...



Karen W. Shelton

Associate Counsel Acuity Brands, Inc.

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Karen.Shelton@AcuityBrands.com

1170 Peachtree Street, NE

Suite 2400

Atlanta, GA 30309

Tel: 404 853 1400 Fax: 404 853 1470

AcuityBrands.com

May 21, 2002

COPY OF PAPERS ORIGINALLY FILED

#### CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 7099 3220 0002 8733 5839 RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Douglas J. Stang 114 Warren Street Columbus, OH 43215

Re:

US Application No. 10/005,099

Claiming Priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/251,368

"Systems and Methods for Providing Lighting

Solutions Over a Computer Network"

RECEIVED
JUL 1 5 2002
DEFICE OF PETITIONS

Dear Mr. Stang:

This is a second request for your signature on documents in connection with the above-referenced patent application. Please call me at (404) 853-1414 if you have any questions or concerns. I would be happy to send a notary to your current place of employment if that would make things easier for you. Please note that in connection with the provisional application for this invention, you signed an assignment obligating you to execute any other documentation as necessary to complete the patent process.

You are named as an inventor in the patent application titled "Systems and Methods for Providing Lighting Solutions Over a Computer Network." Your rights in this patent application need to be formally assigned to the legal entity that holds Lithonia Lighting's intellectual property. Therefore, enclosed for your signature is an Assignment, which will assign your rights to Acuity Brands, Inc. Also, enclosed for your signature is a Declaration for Patent Application, which declares you are a joint inventor on the above-referenced subject matter for which a patent is sought. Please sign and have the Assignment notarized. The Declaration only requires your signature. Please mail the Assignment and Declaration back to me in the enclosed self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Each individual associated with filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Patent Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. This duty is a continuing one, and an Information Disclosure Statement

Lighting Group

Lithonia Holophone Peerless Hydrel

Specialty Products

Zep Selig Enforcer National Chemical



Mr. Douglas Stang May 21, 2002 Page 2 of 2

should be supplemented when information material to examination of the application is discovered at any time the application remains pending.

To comply with this duty, Kilpatrick Stockton will review their files and draft an Information Disclosure Statement to cite any references they are aware of. Please provide me with any information you have not previously given me or the lawyers at Kilpatrick Stockton that you believe may be material to the examination of the application. Basically, this means information about any inventions, devices, or systems similar to the invention described in the application. It also includes any information about published descriptions of the invention, public uses of the invention or sale of or offers to sell the invention more than one year prior to the date the application was filed. Please also tell me about any similar inventions, devices or systems which may predate your invention, but of which you become aware at any later time while the patent application is pending.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

Karen W. Shelton Associate Counsel

KWS/lbl

**Enclosures** 

cc: Rick Earlywine (w/o enclosures)

## **SAcuity**Brands

Acuity Brands, Inc. 1420 Peachtree Street, NE Atlanta, GA 30309-3002

## CERTIFIED MAIL





US. POSTAGE # 1

Mr. Douglas J. Stang 114 Warren Street Columbus, OH 43215



RETURN TO SENDER

43215 (633605) (630002)

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# EOI N AT DOTTEN LINE

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION	COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY
■ Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete	A. Signature
item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired.  Print your name and address on the reverse	X D Addressee
<ul> <li>so that we can return the card to you.</li> <li>Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece,</li> </ul>	B. Received by ( Printed Name) C. Date of Delivery
or or are north a space permiss.	D. Is delivery address different from item 1?   Yes
Article Addressed to:	If YES, enter delivery address below: No
Mr. Douglas J. Stang 114 Warren Street Columbus, OH 43215	
,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Service Type     Certified Mail
	☐ Registered ☑ Return Receipt for Merchandisc ☐ Insured Mail ☐ C.O.D.
	4. Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee)

PS Form 3811, August 2001

(Transfer from service label)

Domestic Return Receipt

102595-01-M-2509

Article Number

U.S. Postal Service
CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT
(Domestic Mail Only; No Insurance Coverage Provided)

Article Sent To:

Douglas J. Stang

Postage \$

Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required)
Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required)
Total Postage & Fees \$

Name (Please Print Clearly) (To be completed by mailer)
Douglas J. Stang
Street, Apt. No.; or PO Box No.

114 Warren Street
City State, ZIP-4
Cert Lumbus, OH 43215
PS Form 3800, July 1999
See Reverse for Instructions